

## **Sunnynook River Park Project**

---

### **(a) Project Site Description**

The Sunnynook River Park is an approximately 5-acre unimproved publicly-owned (Caltrans and DWP) easement with vegetation ranging from groundcover to full-grown trees. It is located between the I-5 Freeway (west boundary), the Los Angeles River bike path (east boundary), the historic Glendale-Hyperion Viaduct (south boundary) and the Sunnynook pedestrian bridge (north boundary).

### **(b) Government Entities with Jurisdiction Over Project Area (List)**

1. State of California, Department of Transportation (owner)
2. State of California, Resources Agency in conjunction with the Department of Transportation (funder)
3. City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering (project partner)
4. City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks (maintenance)
5. City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power (owner/utility right-of-way)
6. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (project partner/funder)
7. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (project partner)

### **(c.) Planning Objectives and Principles Sought to be Achieved by the Project**

The Sunnynook River Park project is a multi-benefit project that will create a greenway/infiltration park along the existing bike path on the west side of the Los Angeles River. The area will serve as a rest area for pedestrians and cyclists, be landscaped with native vegetation, and include picnic areas, benches, educational amenities, signage, and art.

### **(d) Proposed Land Uses**

1. Passive recreation: park environment.
2. Walking trails: decomposed granite pavement.
3. Educational activities: outdoor classroom and interpretive signage

### **(e) Detailed Site Analysis of Property (APN/Ownership information)**

The site has two property owners. The State of California, Department of Transportation (Caltrans) owns the large parcel which is approximately 4-acres (no APN number available), but the project is only utilizing approximately 2-acres of this site. The remainder of the Caltrans property will be left in its natural state, providing a buffer along the I-5 Freeway. The City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power owns the remaining 1-acre parcel (APN # 5435039903) that is adjacent to the Los Angeles River bike path.

### **(f) Government Agencies, Organizations and Private Parties Consulted (List)**

**Elected Officials**

Federal: 31, Office of U.S. Representative Xavier Becerra (contact TBD)  
State Senate: 21, Office of Senator Jack Scott (contact TBD)  
State Assembly: 43, Office of Assemblymember Paul Krekorian (contact TBD)  
LA County: Maria Chong-Castillo, Office of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (Dist. 3)  
City Council District 4: Jullian Harris-Calvin, Office of Councilman Tom LaBonge  
City Council District 13: Mitch O'Farrell, Office of Council President Eric Garcetti  
City Council Ad Hoc Committee on the LA River: Lupe Vela  
Office of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa: Krista Kline  
Neighborhood Council: Greater Griffith Park

**Funders/Partners**

Funder: Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy/MRCA: Joe Edmiston, Barbara Romero, Cara Meyer  
Funder: Lucila Gonzalez, Caltrans  
Land Owner: Caltrans: Ronald Kosinski  
City BOE River Project Office: Larry Hsu and Carol Armstrong  
City BOE Architectural Division: Renee Curtis and Guillermo Barragan  
City BOE Bridge Program: Wenn Chyn and Wally Stokes  
City Dept. of Public Works, Public Affairs Office: Tonya Durrell  
City DOT: Michelle Mowery (Coordination with bikeway/maintenance)  
City RAP: Darryl Ford, Tom McCall, Vicki Israel (Maintenance issues)  
City BOS: Laura Hunter (Coordination re: design of water quality BMP elements)  
National Park Service: Jim Donovan (De Anza National Trail signage)  
LA County: Terri Grant, Angela George, Christine Seda, Richard Gomez, and Dan Sharp

**Consultants**

LARRMP Consultants: Ira Artz and Kathleen Bullard, Tetra Tech, Inc.  
Project Consultants: TBD

**Community**

Other Neighborhood Councils: Atwater Village: Netty Carr, Brandon Cabezas, Tim Warner  
Friends of Atwater Village  
FoLAR  
Northeast Trees

**(g) Analysis of Economic Feasibility of Proposed Project**

This project is funded by a \$350,000.00 grant from the State Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) and a \$1,350,000 grant from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for a total of \$1,700,000. The original project cost was estimated using standard Bureau of Engineering factors for River-related "park" projects as outlined in the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (p. 10-16). Although these standards approximate a per acre cost of more than \$1,000,000 for these kinds of projects, there are several factors which would reduce the project cost compared to other park projects: coordination work with the City's bridge program (that will cover a large water quality best management practice element of the project) has yielded some cost-savings; portions of the site that cannot be developed into a useable park limit the area of the project; and the project will save cost by limiting certain features.